

Patent
10/690,429

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 20 are now pending in the application. Claim 20 has been amended herein and Claims 16-19 have been canceled.

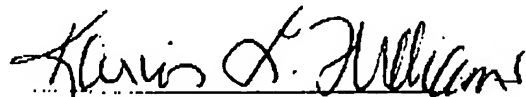
The Abstract was objected to because of a typographical error – this error has now been corrected. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 1-15 are allowed and that Claim 20 would be allowable if the section 112 rejection was addressed. Claim 20 has been amended to depend from Claim 16.

Claims 16-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,389,070 (Cugini). The cancellation of Claims 16-19 renders this rejection moot.

Accordingly, it is believed that this application is clearly in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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